



217
#4
RECEIVED
JUN 29 2001
Technology Center 2100

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Scott Williams, et al.
SERIAL NO.: 09/663,325
FILED: 09/15/2000
FOR: Custom Rule System and
Method for Expert Systems

ART UNIT: 2171

EXAMINER: Not Yet Assigned

To: Assistant Commissioner For Patents
Washington, DC 20231

**TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
BEFORE MAILING OF FIRST OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(b)**

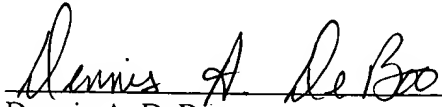
The patents listed on the appended PTO 1449 form reflect the state of the art of which applicant is currently aware. These references are included to fulfill the applicant's duty to disclose prior art. It is stipulated, however, that none of these references teach singly, nor render obvious when combined, the nexus of this invention as disclosed and as particularly claimed.

**IDENTIFICATION OF TIME OF FILING THE
ACCOMPANYING INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

The information disclosure statement submitted herewith is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.

Dated: June 19, 2001

Respectfully Submitted:


Dennis A. DeBoo
Telephone: (916) 449-3983
Registration No.: 42,471

[Transmittal of Information Disclosure Statement]

+

+

Approved for use through 10/31/2002 OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Complete if Known

Application Number	09/663,325
Filing Date	09/15/2000
First Named Inventor	Scott Williams
Group Art Unit	2171
Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 3 of 3

Attorney Docket Number	2057-pa
------------------------	---------



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
	41	5,521,844		Karis	May 28, 1996	
	42	5,541,832		Nakajima, et al.	July 30, 1996	
	43	5,557,549		Chang	Sep. 17, 1996	
	44	5,559,691		Monta, et al.	Sep., 1996	
	45	5,561,610		Schricker, et al.	Oct. 1, 1996	
	46	5,617,514		Dolby, et al.	Apr. 1, 1997	
	47	5,630,025		Dolby, et al.	May 13, 1997	
	48	5,659,743		Adams, et al.	Aug. 19, 1997	
	49	5,787,234		Molloy	July 28, 1998	
	50	5,802,255		Hughes, et al.	Sep. 1, 1998	
	51	5,870,308		Dangelo, et al.	Feb. 9, 1999	
	52	5,905,989		Biggs	May 18, 1999	
	53	6,002,854		Lynch, et al.	Dec. 14, 1999	
	54	6,016,960		Liu	Jan. 25, 2000	
	55	6,057,841		Thurlow, et al.	May 2, 2000	
	56	6,065,002		Knotts, et al.	May 16, 2000	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

Examiner
Signature

Date
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U. S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO:** Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

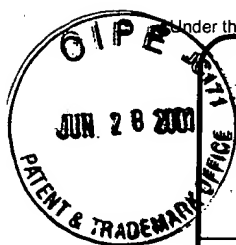
+

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → +

PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.



Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 3

Complete if Known

Application Number	09/663,325
Filing Date	09/15/2000
First Named Inventor	Scott Williams
Group Art Unit	2171
Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Attorney Docket Number	2057-pa

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials [*]	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
	1	4,591,983		Bennett, et al.	May 27, 1986	
	2	4,628,435		Tashiro, et al.	Dec. 9, 1986	
	3	4,644,479		Kemper	Feb. 17, 1987	
	4	4,719,586		Moyer, et al.	Jan. 12, 1988	
	5	4,803,039		Impink, Jr., et al.	Feb., 1989	
	6	4,815,014		Lipner, et al.	Mar. 12, 1989	
	7	4,839,823		Matsumoto	June 13, 1989	
	8	4,853,175		Book, Sr.	Aug. 1, 1989	
	9	4,855,923		Fullmer	Aug. 8, 1989	
	10	4,858,102		Lovrenich	Aug. 15, 1989	
	11	4,947,095		Kawamura, et al.	Aug. 7, 1990	
	12	5,068,080		Impink, Jr., et al.	Nov. 26, 1991	
	13	5,099,436		McCown, et al.	Mar. 24, 1992	
	14	5,119,318		Paradies, et al.	June 2, 1992	
	15	5,148,363		Sakamoto, et al.	Sep. 15, 1992	
	16	5,161,110		Dorchak	Nov. 3, 1992	
	17	5,189,604		Lovrenich	Feb. 23, 1993	
	18	5,195,029		Murai, et al.	Mar. 16, 1993	
	19	5,214,577		Sztipanovits, et al.	May 25, 1993	
	20	5,216,612		Cornett, et al.	June 1, 1993	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials [*]	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				

Examiner
Signature

Date
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U. S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → +



Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 2

of 3

Complete if Known

Application Number	09/663,325
Filing Date	09/15/2000
First Named Inventor	Scott Williams
Group Art Unit	2171
Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Attorney Docket Number	2057-pa

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials [*]	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
	21	5,239,547		Tomiyama, et al.	Aug. 24, 1993	
	22	5,249,260		Nigawara, et al.	Sep. 28, 1993	
	23	5,251,144		Ramamurthi	Oct. 5, 1993	
	24	5,267,141		Morita, et al.	Nov. 30, 1993	
	25	5,305,426		Ushioda, et al.	Apr. 19, 1994	
	26	5,333,240		Matsumoto, et al.	July 26, 1994	
	27	5,355,444		Chirico	Oct. 11, 1994	
	28	5,398,304		Bauman, et al.	Mar. 14, 1995	
	29	5,402,526		Bauman, et al.	Mar. 28, 1995	
	30	5,403,447		Järvinen, et al.	Apr. 4, 1995	
	31	5,406,502		Haramaty, et al.	Apr. 11, 1995	
	32	5,412,756		Bauman, Jr., et al.	May 2, 1995	
	33	5,414,632		Mochizuki, et al.	May 9, 1995	
	34	5,442,562		Hopkins, et al.	Aug. 15, 1995	
	35	5,450,545		Martin, et al.	Sep. 12, 1995	
	36	5,452,453		Ando, et al.	Sep. 19, 1995	
	37	5,463,545		Umeda, et al.	Oct. 31, 1995	
	38	5,463,567		Boen, et al.	Oct. 31, 1995	
	39	5,493,633		Obata	Feb. 20, 1996	
	40	5,511,004		Dubost, et al.	Apr. 23, 1996	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials [*]	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				

Examiner
Signature

Date
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U. S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.